

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BUDAPE 03385 300831Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-05 IO-13 CU-04
BIB-01 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01
OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /100 W
-----106246 300840Z /20

O R 300749Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9545
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

S E C R E T BUDAPEST 3385

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, UR, XH
SUBJECT: EAST EUROPEAN AND SOVIET PERFORMANCE ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
RIGHTS - HUNGARY

REF: STATE 219878

1. THE EMBASSY CONGRATULATES THE DEPARTMENT ON THE EFFORT IT
HAS MADE IN DRAFTING THE DEFENSE BRIEF ON HUNGARY FOR POSSIBLE
USE AT BELGRADE. WE AGREE THAT SUCH A DEFENSE BRIEF IS NEEDED
IN CASE THE CONFERENCE DISSOLVEYZNTO AN EAST-WEST CONFRONTA-
TION.

2. AT THE SAME TIME WE BELIEVE THAT THE BEST DEFENSE BRIEF
THE U.S. CAN PRESENT IS OUR OWN IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF IMPLE-
MENTATION OF ECONOMIC AND SOVIAL RIGHTS. IT STRIKES US THAT
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THE BEST WAY FOR OUR DELEGATION TO COUNTER ANY ATTACKS ON
OUR POLICY IN SUCH AREAS AS MINORITY RIGHTS AND UNEMPLOYMENT
IS TO STAND ON OUR RECORD AND NOT TO BE SHY IN DOING SO.

3. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE HUNGARIAN AND OTHER
COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS ARE MOST VULNERABLE TO
CRITICISMS WHICH POINT TO SHORTCOMINGS IN THE COM-

MUNIST SYSTEM ITSELF IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS. HOW CAN A REGIME DEFEND THE IDEOLOGICAL SUPREMACY OF ONE CLASS OVER OTHERS? IS NOT THE MONOPOLY OF POWER OF ONE PARTY CONDUCTIVE TO ABUSE AND A DENIAL OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS? MANIFESTATIONS OF COMMUNIST IDEOLOGY SUCH AS NON-CONTESTED ELECTIONS, EMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON FREEDOM OF PRESS MAKE THE EAST HIGHLY VULNERABLE IN OUR OPINION TO ANY CONFRONTATION IN BELGRADE.

4. WITH REFERENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT'S DRAFT ON HUNGARY, WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC COMMENTS:

A. GYPSIES: THE DEPARTMENT IS CORRECT IN POINTING OUT THAT IN SOME RESPECTS GYPSIES ARE THE EQUIVALENT OF OUR OWN "BLACK PROBLEM." THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO CORRECT IN POINTING OUT THAT THE GYPSIES RESIST ASSIMILATION INTO HUNGARIAN SOCIETY. IN TAKING THIS ATTITUDE, WE MUST BE PREPARED TO ADMIT THAT THE GYPSIES ARE AT LEAST PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SITUATION.

B. WOMEN: EXCEPT FOR THE WAGE DISCRIMINATION, THE DEPARTMENT'S CASE STRIKES US AS RATHER WEAK.

C. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST BELIEVERS: THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSLY CONDEMNS RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION AND FLAGRANT ABUSES HAVE BEEN GREATLY REDUCED. THERE ARE INDICATIONS OF DISCRIMINATION,
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BUT THEY ARE SUBTLE AND LARGELY UNPROVABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF CSCE.

D. HOUSING: PARA 8 OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DRAFT OVERSTATES THE CASE. HERE, AS IS THE CASE IN OTHER AREAS, THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT CAN TROT OUT TONS OF STATISTICS TO "DISPROVE" ANY GENERAL STATEMENT WHICH WE MAKE. WE RECOMMEND CAUTION AND USING ONLY CRITICISM WHICH CAN BE SUBSTANTIATED.

5. THE EMBASSY HOPES THAT IT WILL NOT PROVE NECESSARY TO DRAW ON ANY OF THE ABOVE MATERIAL OR THE DEFENSE BRIEF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770356-0898
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From: BUDAPEST
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977091/aaaaaapq.tel
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TAGS: SHUM, MARR, PDIP, PARM, UR, XH, CSCE
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